

377

# CANADIAN Catholic Readers.

FIRST BOOK  
PART II.

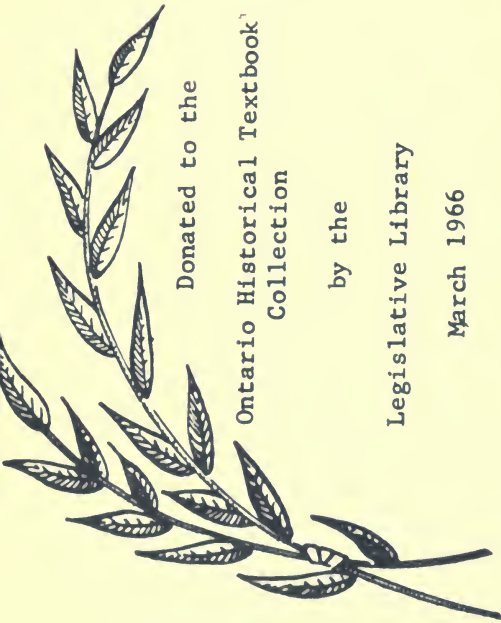


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THE CHRIST CHILD.

Canadian Catholic Readers.

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# FIRST READER.

## PART II.

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*APPROVED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR  
USE IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE  
SCHOOLS OF ONTARIO.*

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## PREFACE.

— 10 —

In this book are introduced the long and the exceptional sounds of the vowels, in different combinations.

Lessons I-IV deal with the long sounds marked by final *e* mute.

Lessons V-XIX present the exceptional sounds—in almost all cases distinguished by a certain combination.

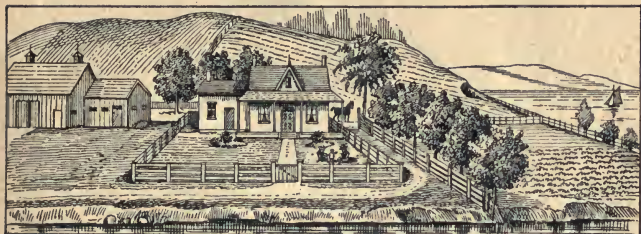
Lessons XX-XXIII contain certain vowel sounds, each of which requires two letters, as one picture, to represent them.

The remaining lessons are, mainly, review lessons, involving the short and the long vowel sounds, and the consonant sounds, as taught in Part I, and in the first fifty pages of Part II.

In these lessons good drill in word naming or word recognition is an essential element in successful teaching.



*a, with its long sound before final e silent ; c, with its soft sound before final e silent.*



babe	spade	tale	care	have
face	wade	game	hare	shade
Grace	safe	lame	base	gale
pace	lake	tame	gate	bare
race	make	Dave	Kate	cave
	fade	take	lane	late
	made	shake	mane	rate

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

good  
house  
flowers  
horse  
you  
saw  
says  
out  
breaks

Ben Smith has a big farm which stretch-es from the top of the hill to the lake. It is good land, and from it he will take a rich crop. At the base of the hill is the house ; and a

lane runs from it to the lake. At the back of the house, and a-long the lane are trees, the branch-es of which make a shade from the hot sun. The sun makes the flowers fade.

The horse is in the yard. You will see him rush through the gate, shake his mane, and start at a brisk pace down the lane.

Grace, Kate and the babe have just left the lane, and are in the grass plot. Grace is fond of the babe and will take care that it is safe from harm. They of-ten go to the lake when there is not a gale, to dip their bare feet in the wa-ter, or wade, or race on the sand. Then they rest and Kate tells a tale.

In the face of the hill is a cave which Ben made with his spade.

He saw a lame hare run in-to the cave. Ben says he will bring out his dog, Dave, and catch the hare. But he must not be late, for the hare will hide in the cave. On the hill there are game ; but they are not tame.

In the gar-den Ben has some rare plants and flowers. He gave them much care ; and had a sale of them, late last fall.

He has a hot-house where some of the plants are car-ed for in the win-ter ; but they are tak-en out in spring and put in the clay. He is care-ful to rake the beds and pare the bor-ders.

The frost of win-ter of-ten breaks the panes of glass in the hot-house, so they must be mend-ed in the spring.

e and i with their long sounds before final e silent, with or without a consonant intervening. g soft, before final e silent.



be	tie	dike	dine	tire
he	wide	like	fine	wire
we	ride	mile	line	bite
here	side	pile	mine	kite
tail	tide	while	nine	drive
lie	wide	dime	pipe	size
pie	life	time	five	large

Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.

sea  
rise  
day  
brought  
also  
air  
be-fore

Fred and his sis-ters are  
at the sea-side. They have  
a fine time. When the  
tide is out, there is a wide  
strip of sand a mile long.  
On this they ride or drive,  
and nev-er tire. But if the

tide rise they must hie to the land.

When the day is fine we can see the ships go by that large pile of rock. Fred of-ten sits on the rock to fish, while his sis-ters make hills in the sand or hide in the marsh grass. If the fish bite, he will catch nine, and put them on a wire line for which he gave a dime. Fred will make a fire, and he and his sis-ters will dine on some of the fish. Then they will have pie and cake.

Here he brought his kite, also. He will tie a string on it and send it up in the air. Mine will be made like Fred's, and of the same size.

In the marsh the men have made a dike. The marsh is wet; but the wa-ter will not lie there. It will



run off through the dike. In a house the wa-ter of-ten runs through a pipe.

Ned and his sis-ters will not bide long on the sand. They will hear the chime of the bell tell-ing them the time. They must hie home be-fore it is dark, and lest the tide may glide up-on them. Some-times the waves make great strides to the land.

The pike is a fresh wa-ter fish ; and Fred in-tends try-ing for some in a lake not far from home. He can hire a skiff to go out on the lake. He says there are some prime pike, perch and bass there ; and when tired he can rest un-der the pine trees in the wood.

We wish Fred and his sis-ters long life.

o with its long sound before final e silent, with or without a consonant intervening.



foe	rode	pole	stone	sore
hoe	broke	sole	hope	tore
toe	joke	dome	mope	note
woe	poke	home	rope	
hole	alone	more	drove	

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

—

were  
foot  
who  
all  
does  
one

Dan and Will were running a-cross the hill to school. Will fell in-to a hole in the path, broke his slate and tore his jack-et. He hurt his toe and the sole of his foot, on a stone. His foot is sore and he is

in much woe. Dan made a joke of it; and began to poke fun at Will, who did not like it; but he is not a foe to Dan. They hope it will not hap-pen again. Will must be more care-ful.

Their grand-pa has sent them a note to in-vite them to his farm. On the farm is a big house with a dome. There they will not mope all day. They will swing out of a rope in the barn, jump with a pole, hoe in the gar-den, or chat with grand-pa, when he does not wish to be a-lone.

Dan can ride well, for he often rode one of his grand-pa's horses when he drove them to the long grass on the top of the hill.



u, with its long sound before final e silent, with or without a consonant intervening.



due	glue	pure
hue	tube	use
blue	huge	flute
clue	tune	mute
flue	cure	

Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.

sky  
health  
board

Char-les was sick ; but the doc-tor said :—"A rest will cure him." So Char-les was kept out for a while in the fresh air un-der the blue sky ; and soon had the hue of health.

In the pine wood there is, un-der a huge tree, a hut, in which he of-ten rests, and on chill days makes a fire. The smoke goes up through a flue in the roof. This flue is made of long strips of wood put to-gether by glue.

He has a clue to the den of the fox.

In due time he was bet-ter and his papa gave him a flute. It was a re-al flute, not a mute one. Char-les was glad and thank-ful; and in a short time could play a tune. He takes care of the flute, and puts it in a tube made of card-board.

When he goes back to school, he will make such good use of his time, that he will win the prize in his class.

*a* with its long sound, depending on silent *i* immediately following.



fail	pail	gain	fair	wait
hail	rail	main	pair	
mail	sail	rain	bait	
nail	aim	air	gait	

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

—  
old  
boots  
come  
wild

Tom and Jack are off to fish and shoot. A note from an old school-mate came by mail asking them to go. As it is a long tramp to the lake, and it is Tom's aim to gain time,

they were up with the sun. They had to get bait and a lunch. Each wore a pair of strong boots ; and as the day was fair, and the air fresh and crisp, they went at a brisk gait. We hope there will be no rain or hail. They have with them rods, guns, and a pail to put the fish in.

In jump-ing a-cross a fence they broke down a rail. They will nail it up when they come back.

Un-less the wind fail, they may go out in the skiff for a sail.

Fish-ing will take up the main part of the time ; but if they wait till dark they may shoot some wild duck.

*a long, joined to final y silent.*



bay	hay	pay	way	play
day	jay	gay	nay	ray

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

said  
dry  
found

Ned and Dick have a short time for play. They are quite gay. Ned said:—  
“Let us spend it in the skiff on the bay.” “Nay,” said Dick, “let us help in the hay. This is a bet-ter way.”

The day is so fine and the rays of the sun so strong, the farm-er will shake out the hay and then pile it when it is dry. He will pay Ned and Dick to help him. They found a jay’s nest with six eggs in it.



*a, with its broad sound depending on silent l, followed by m,  
or on final r.*

palm

car

calm

far

balm-y

fa-ther

psalm

ra-ther

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

—

Although

walk

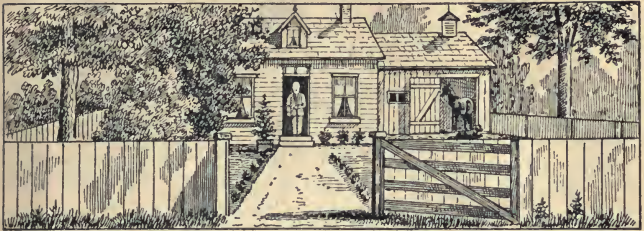
choir

bear

It is Palm Sun-day.  
Mark will go to church  
and will bring home  
palm. Although the  
church is ra-ther far  
from his fa-ther's house,  
he will not go by car.  
He likes to walk.

The choir will sing a  
psalm as the boys bear  
palms in their hands in  
the church. The day  
is calm and balm-y.

a, with its deep sound depending on ld, ll, lt.



bald	fall	wall	Wal-ter
scald	hall	halt	
ball	tall	salt	
call	stall	hal-ter	

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*  
—

lives

door

tied

Wal-ter lives in a big house which is shut in by a wall and by tall trees. As the gate is not shut, we can go to the hall door and ask the bald man for Wal-ter.

He has his horse tied in the stall by a hal-ter; but will take it out for a ride;

and will call the dog. Some time a-go hot wa-ter fell on the dog's foot and scald-ed it; but it is now quite well again.

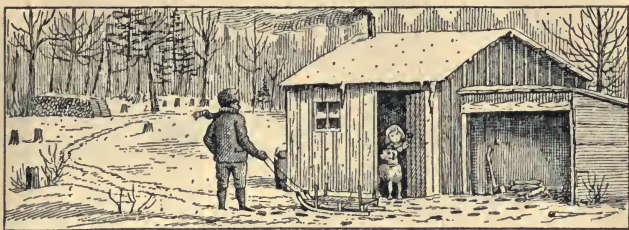
Wal-ter, the horse and the dog will have a good race; and will not call a halt till they have run for more than a mile. Wal-ter will not fall from his horse.

It is sum-mer; and Wal-ter will soon go to the sea-side. He will stay out near-ly all day. The air from the salt wa-ter, the run on the sand, and the dip in the tide will make him well and strong.

Some-times a thun-der storm comes up; and the clouds hang like a pall over the sea. But soon the sun bursts out; and of-ten seems to set in the sea like a ball of fire.



a, with its deep sound depending on silent **w** alone, or on silent **u** or **w** with a consonant ending.



paw

saw

Maud

dawn

raw

haul

Paul

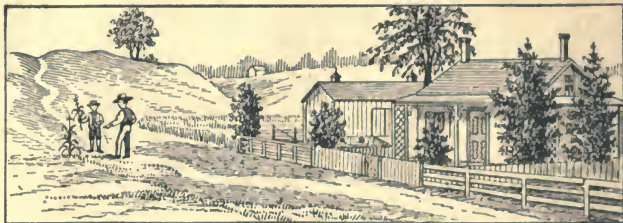
hawk

*Word to be  
taught as a  
whole.*

give

Paul was up at dawn,  
to haul wood to the shed.  
The air is raw; but when  
the sun shines he will give  
Maud a ride on his sled.  
His dog Snap cannot go  
with them as he has a sore  
paw which he got run-ning  
after a hawk.

*a*, with its deep sound depending on silent *l*, followed by *k*.



chalk

stalk

talk

walk

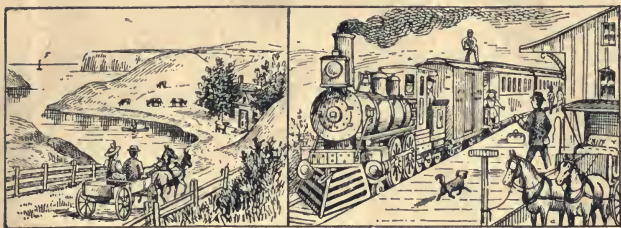
*Word to be  
taught as a  
whole.*

---

their

Ar-thur and his papa are out for a walk. They go by the path a-cross the hill and have a good talk. On their way they found a stalk of ripe corn, a pic-ture of which Ar-thur can draw, at school, with chalk.

e, with its long sound represented by final e or ee, or by ee followed by a consonant.



be	heed	seek	deep	trees
he	need	week	peep	breeze
she	speed	feel	sleep	
we	weeds	heel	weep	
glee	beef	peel	feet	
see	reef	teem	meet	
feed	week	green	sweet	

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

—  
leave  
apples  
soon  
cows

Last week Jane went to her grand-pa's. It made her weep to leave home; but as she did not feel well, and had lost much sleep, she was in need of rest. She went by train,

which rush-ed a-long at fine speed. She had cake and a bag of apples, which her mam-ma told her to peel. Grand-pa came to meet her, and was wait-ing for her. He had not to seek for her as she step-ped on the plat-form as soon as the train stop-ped.

Be-fore the drive nome, grand-pa wish-ed to feed the horses, and have the feet of one of them shod. They like grass or weeds; but he gave them sweet hay. They, hav-ing of-ten seen the cars, do not take heed of them. Grand-pa has a fine horse to ride, which he calls his steed.

Grand-pa's house is in a deep vale by the sea. We can get a peep at it through the trees. See the green slopes and the meek

cows graz-ing. They will make good beef. The dog jumps with glee and is keen for a race. But a short time ago he had a bad cut in his heel. Grand-pa and Jane were not home long be-fore the rain began to teem.

The fresh sea-breeze will make Jane strong. She will of-ten sail out as far as the reef.

---

We bend the knee when we come in-to the Church, to a-dore our Lord in the Bless-ed Sa-cra-ment; and then we kneel to thank Him for stay-ing with us; and to pray to Him to bless us. We have need of His help; but we must serve him in deed as well as in word. He will give what is meet for each of us, if He deem us worth-y.



e, with *ts* long sound, joined to a silent.



each	seal	heap	year
reach	veal	leap	peas
leaf	deals	reap	east
peak	cream	dear	neat
meal	team	fear	seat
peal	beans	hear	wheat

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

---

Dan King brings milk  
and cream to town to sell.  
He deals in beans, peas,  
meal, veal, but-ter and eggs.  
He has a neat cart with a  
spring seat and a team of  
good horses which he has  
had for more than a year.

He starts just when the sun is peep-ing over the big peak, for then it is not so hot. Each leaf in the trees by the way-side is still ; and he can hear the sing-ing of the birds as he rides a-long. The farm-ers have not yet be-gun to reap the wheat.

In town, Dan got a let-ter with a big seal on it. It is from a dear school-mate.

As he drives home, the clouds seem to leap into the sky and heap up in the east. He hears a peal of thun-der and rain be-gins to fall. But he does not fear, as he will soon reach home.

*Same combination of e and a; e silent, a long sound; teach the words as wholes.*

Pain is hard to bear.

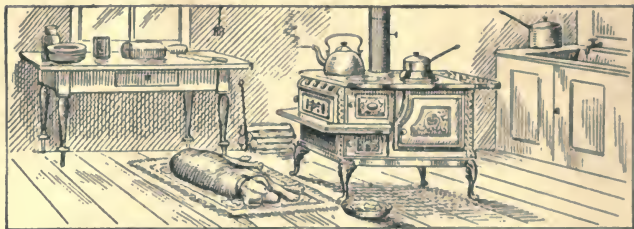
The bear has strong paws.

The pear is sweet.

It is a sin to swear.

It was a great storm.

*e short joined to a silent, usually followed by final d.*



bread	dead	dread	head
lead	read	spread	in-stead

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

—  
poor  
cold  
should  
book  
do-ing

One win-ter day Dick found a poor dog al-most dead with cold. He was in great dread lest it should die; but he spread a rug for it be-fore the fire, gave it bread and milk, and soon it was well.

Dick is head of his class. He read so well, and was so smart with his lead pen-cil and note book in do-ing sums, the mas-ter gave the prize to him in-stead of James.



*e with its long sound preceded by silent i and followed by a consonant.*



piece	brief	chief	grief
thief	field	yield	priest

*Word to be  
taught as  
a whole.*

---

ground

Be-sides be-ing head of his class, Dick is chief or lead-er in the school games. But he will al-ways yield his place in the game if he is ask-ed to do so.

As the time for play at school is brief, the boys, after school, go to a piece of ground which is part of a field. The field be-longs

to the church ; and the good priest lets them play base-ball or la-crosse there. At the end of the game they put their bats and balls in a hut. Last week a thief came and stole six bats. It was the cause of much grief to the boys.

---

Snap is a good watch-dog ; but he is so fierce he is tied up by a chain.

Tom does not wish to grieve his papa and mamma, so he works hard at school.

The farm-er's niece spends the sum-mer with her uncle at the farm.

He was a-fraid that if he went bare foot, a nail would pierce the sole of his foot.

The trees shield the house from the strong win-ter blast.

*i with its long sound followed by ld or nd sounded, and by silent gh alone, or silent gh followed by t.*



child	bind	be-hind		
mild	find	rind		
wild	mind	wind		
high	fight	height	night	tight
nigh	flight	light	sight	
sigh	fright	might	slight	

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

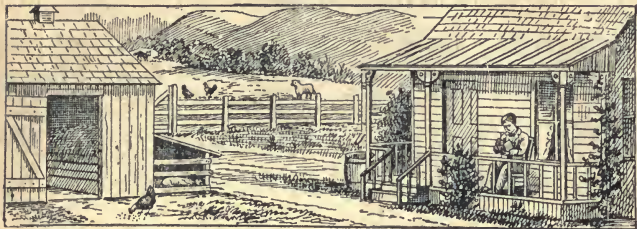
about	Nell and the child, May,
only	have run about all the after-
flowers	noon. Mam-ma said that if
give	Nell would mind the child
	and stay in sight, they might

play on the hill be-hind and nigh the house.

The day was mild: they had time to find wild flowers and to bind them in a tight bunch for mam-ma. The flowers made her sigh, then smile; and she gave Nell and May, each, a pear from which she had tak-en the rind.

When they left the hill, the light was just dy-ing out to give place to night. The wind had been high; but there was now only a slight breeze. The birds could no long-er be seen; they had tak-en flight to their nests on the height. One bird lag-ged be-hind the rest; and looked as if it had been in a fight and had a bad fright.

y final, preceded by a consonant, preceded by silent u, or succeeded by silent e, and having the long sound of i.



by    dry    try    spy    buy    rye  
 my    fly    shy    sty    bye  
 cry    pry    sly    why    dye

Words to be  
 taught as  
 wholes.

done  
 round  
 half

Dick's sum is hard ; but  
 he will not cry o-ver it.  
 He will try and try till it  
 is done. This is why the  
 teach-er says :—"Dick is my  
 best boy."

Dick has a hen, a pet  
 lamb, and a lit-tle pig in a  
 sty by the barn, with a bed



of dry straw. The lamb is shy. Dick can-not catch it, for it will spy him be-fore he gets near : and will run off.

He saw a sly fox pry round to catch the hen ; but the hen will fly up on the barn.

---

The cook will fry meat in the pan.

He put down a three-ply car-pet.

The sky is dark : I fear we shall have a storm.

You are not so small as I,  
And not half so spry.

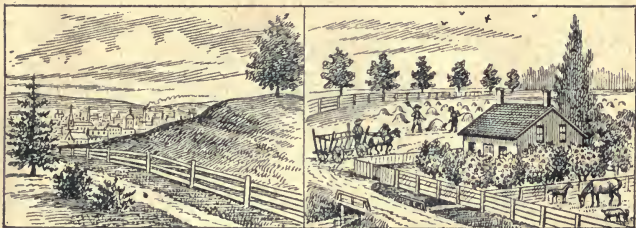
Tom will buy a school bag.

He said good bye to his school-mates.

The man will dye the cloth black.  
On the farm is a field of rye.



o with its long sound depending on silent a immediately following.



load	foal	soap	boat
road	goal	roar	coat
toad	moan	soar	goat

Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.

city  
sport

Yon-der one can stand  
and lis-ten to the roar of  
the big city ; but here is  
heard only the moan of the  
wind, sigh-ing through the  
trees. All things are bright  
and gay. The foal frisks  
in the sun, the goat runs  
here and there crop-ping  
the sweet green grass ; and

the birds soar high in the air, singing as they go.

It is hay-ing time. See the men in the hay-field. Each one has his coat off, ready to toss the hay into the cart as Dan drives up. His strong team, taking the road through the orchard, will quickly bring the load to the barn.

Dan is quite a sport. He plays la-crosse; and is goal-keeper for his class. One day he made a paper boat to sail in the small stream near the house; but a toad hopped into his little craft and he saw it no more.

Little Tim made a toy ship out of a piece of soap; and felt quite sad when it sank.

o with its long sound immediately followed by ld sounded,  
or by silent w.



old	crow	know	snow
cold	low	mow	own
fold	blow	row	blown
gold	flow	sow	growth
sold	glow	show	known
told	grow	slow	throw

*Words to be  
taught as  
wholes.*

—

you  
worth

You know James and  
Hen-ry Clark who own this  
large farm. Lit-tle streams  
flow through it, keep-ing  
the clay fresh and soft. On  
each side of the walk from  
the road to the house are

low shrubs ; and be-hind the house, a row of old trees in which the crow makes its nest.

On a part of the farm they grow grain and roots ; on an-oth-er part, hay ; and an-oth-er part is a sheep-fold.

In spring, when the snow is gone and the air is no long-er cold, they sow and plant. Then they watch the slow growth of the stalks and leaves as soon as they show themselves.

When the hay is fit, the men will mow it ; and then throw or toss it up in-to the air, that the wind may blow through it and make it dry. How sweet is the smell of the new-mown hay, blown o-ver the fields

in the glow of the e-ven-ing.

Last year James and Hen-ry sold all the hay. They told me it was worth gold to them. But they are known to be good farm-ers.

---

*In connection with this may be read Stanza II, page 41.*

I.

Sweet and low, sweet and low,  
Wind of the west-ern sea,  
Low, low, breathe and blow,  
Wind of the west-ern sea!  
Over the roll-ing wa-ters go,  
Come from the dy-ing moon, and  
blow,  
Blow him a-gain to me ;  
While my lit-tle one, while my  
pret-ty one, sleeps.



*The long sound of u represented by ew.*



blew	mew	dew
new	view ( <i>i silent</i> )	few
flew	hew	yew

*Word to be  
taught as a  
whole.*

comes

The dew is on the grass; but it will be dry in a few min-utes af-ter the sun comes out. The man has come with his new ax<sup>1</sup> to hew down the yew tree, from which, yes-ter-day, the wind blew man-y branch-es. When he came in view, the birds which had made

<sup>1</sup>axe.



their nests in the tree, flew away; and the cat began to mew because she had lost her chance to get one of them.

It is sad to know that the nests will fall with the tree. Where can the poor birds go?

---

*This may be read as a sequence to Stanza I, on page 39.*

## II.

Sleep and rest, sleep and rest,

Fa-ther will come to thee soon;  
Rest, rest, on mo-ther's breast,

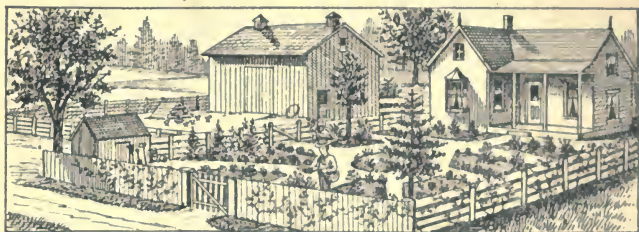
Fa-ther will come to thee soon;  
Fa-ther will come to his babe in  
the nest,

Sil-ver sails all out of the west

Un-der the sil-ver moon:

Sleep, my lit-tle one, sleep, my  
pret-ty one, sleep.

*The long sound of oo as represented by oo and ew.*



### COO

boom	doom-ed	loop	pool
boot	gloom	loom	poor
broom	hoof	mood	rood
cool-er	hoop	moon	roof
coop	hoot	noon	room
root	school	shoot	stoop-ing
stool	drew	grew	threw

*Word to be  
taught as a  
whole.*

—  
rolls

Tom has a fine gar-den  
about a rood in size. This  
lit-tle plot of ground is shut  
in by a neat fence; and  
creep-ers are train-ed to  
loop them-selves a-round

the bars. In it for some years past he grew the fair-est flow-ers; and from the beds he dai-ly culls a pret-ty bunch for his room. The walks a-mong the flow-er-beds are swept clean by a broom.

One hot day, as Tom, af-ter school, was at work in his gar-den stoop-ing to stir up the clay about a root, he heard the thun-der boom and saw black clouds loom up. Soon the rain beat down on the roof of the house and barn; and made a big pool in the yard. Tom threw down his spade; and, although he is a lit-tle lame since he was struck on the leg by the hoof of a horse, he ran quick-ly to the barn. On the way, poor Tom

step-ped into the pool and wet one boot. He sat on a stool in the barn and drew off the boot. Here he was doom-ed to stay for a long time un-til the rain clear-ed off.

Some-times Tom is in a mer-ry mood. He rolls his hoop, or chases the hens through the yard into the coop.

He likes to roam about in the moon-light in the gloom of the trees, to hear the hoot of the owl, and watch the fire-flies shoot through the air. It is then much cool-er than at noon; and one feels rest-ed and hap-py. You should hear him coo to the owl.

---

The hen has a brood of chick-ens.

The moose is a kind of deer.

*The short sound of oo.*



book

hood

took

foot

look-ing

wood

good

shook

wool

*Word to be  
taught as a  
whole.*

both

An-drew is a good boy who goes to school ev-er-y day both in sum-mer and in win-ter. On cold days he wears mitts made of the soft-est wool, and a thick coat, the hood of which he draws o-ver his head to keep him warm.



He goes on foot and pass-es  
through a wood. One day, in fun,  
he shook the trees to make the  
snow fall on him. So much came  
down, he lost his book. He at  
once set about look-ing for it; but  
it took him a long time to find it;  
and he was near-ly late for school.

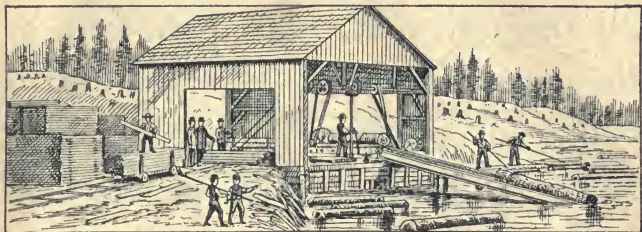
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O-ver the riv-er and through the  
wood,  
To grand-fa-ther's house we go;  
The horse knows the way  
To car-ry the sleigh  
Through the white and drift-ed  
snow.

O-ver the riv-er and through the  
wood—  
Oh, how the wind does blow!  
It stings the toes,  
And bites the nose,  
As o-ver the ground we go.



*The sound of oi and oy.*



oil	toil	point	boy
boil-ing	join	voice	an-noy
coils	noise	hoist	en-joy
soil	joint	moist	

*Word to be  
taught as a  
whole.*

---

tear

To-day we shall join the  
work-men and vis-it the  
saw mills. We shall not  
an-noy the men; we shall  
just look on and en-joy  
our-selves. Hear the noise  
of the saws as they tear  
through the moist logs at

which ev-er-y man and boy will toil all the day. We can hard-ly hear the man's voice as he talks to us and leads us from point to point.

We can get a peep at the big wa-ter wheel far down in the boil-ing cur-rent, which coils about it. The wheel spins round so fast it must of-ten need oil.

See how ev-er-y joint of the chains is stretch-ed as they hoist the logs up to the frames. The new planks are so clean we may lift them and they will not soil our hands.

---

True worth is in *be-ing* not *seem-ing*—

In do-ing, each day that goes by,  
Some lit-tle good,—not in dream-ing  
Of great things to do by and by.

*The sound of ou represented by ou and ow.*



loud      bound      ground      house      stout  
 cloud      found      sound      out  
 proud      round      our      shout  
 cow      now      crowd-ed      town      show-ers  
 how      brow      down      flow-ers

*Words to be  
 taught as  
 wholes.*

fort  
 guard

On the brow of a hill at one end of the town stands an old fort. Long a-go, it had stout walls, and men proud to guard it. But most of the walls have fall-en down, strew-ing the ground with the ru-ins. Man-y a

loud shout, warn-ing those with-in that dan-ger was near, went up from the wild tribes which crowd-ed round it. And if, out-side, they found a poor strag-gler, they of-ten bound him hand and foot to a tree; and cru-el-ly put him to death.

But in our time all is peace. The farm-er, liv-ing in a snug house, tills his fields and brings in-to the barn his grain and hay. The trees and flow-ers bloom, re-fresh-ed by the soft show-ers which fall from the clouds. The cow, the horse, and the sheep graze in qui-et on the hills. The songs of the birds sound sweet-ly in his ears.

How thank-ful we should be that we live in such times.

## THE NEW MOON.

Dear mother, how pretty  
The moon looks to-night !  
She was never so cunning before ;  
Her two little horns  
Are so sharp and so bright,  
I hope she'll not grow any more.

If I were up there,  
With you and my friends,  
I'd rock in it nicely, you'd see ;  
I'd sit in the middle  
And hold by both ends ;  
Oh, what a bright cradle 't would be !

I would call to the stars  
To keep out of the way,  
Lest we should rock over their toes ;  
And then I would rock  
Till the dawn of the day,  
And see where the pretty moon goes.



And there we would stay  
In the beautiful skies  
And through the bright clouds we  
would roam ;  
We would see the sun set,  
And see the sun rise,  
And on the next rainbow come home.

—*Mrs. Follen.*

---

#### THE BOY AND THE NETTLE.

A boy was one day playing in the fields, and was stung by a nettle. He ran home and told his mother, saying that he had only touched it, and it had stung him. "It was because you only touched it, my boy," said she, "that it stung you. The next time you meddle with a nettle, grasp it stoutly, and it will not sting you."





## CHRIST, THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

good	flock	flies	other
shepherd	hireling	life	fold
Christ	wolf	sheep	one

“I am the good shepherd,” said Christ. “The good shepherd gives his life for his flock; but the hireling, when he sees the wolf, flies. I lay down my life for my sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this fold, them also I must bring. There shall be but one fold and one shepherd.”



Crow	Thank	heavy	worms
Robin	hunting	shower	hungry
nice	build	knocks	follow
bright	already	found	cherries
morning	rather	twigs	friend
heard	safer	wool	scarecrow

1. Mr. Crow.

2. Mr. Robin.

1. A nice, bright morning, Mr. Robin ; I heard your fine song as I came along.

2. Thank you, I am hunting for a good spot to build my nest.

1. Mine is already built on the top of a high tree.

2. O! I would rather build mine near a house. I think it is safer, though sometimes, a heavy shower knocks it down.

1. Have you found any sticks or twigs, or wet moss with which to build?

2. Why, I use wool, and string, and hay for it. But where is a good place to find worms, for I am very hungry?

1. O! I follow the farmer. He turns up the earth and I get the worms and grubs. *You* will be glad when the cherries are ripe.

2. Yes, by that time I hope some little blue eggs will be hatched; and there will be little robins to feed.

1. Are robin's eggs blue? A crow's are pale green.

2. Has our friend the farmer set up his scarecrow yet?

1. Caw! caw! I am too wise a bird to fear that.

2. I, too, Mr. Crow; cheer up, cheer up.

---

### ILL TRY AND I CAN'T.

The little boy who says, "I'll try,"

Will climb to the hill top:

The little boy who says, "I can't,"

Will at the bottom stop.

"I'll try" does great things every day:

"I can't" gets nothing done;

Be sure then that you say, "I'll try"

And let "I can't" alone.

## MOTHER OF MERCY, DAY BY DAY.

Mother of mercy, day by day,

My love of thee grows more and  
more,

Thy gifts are strewn upon my way,

Like sands upon the great sea  
shore.

Thy love for me, I know its worth,

Oh, it is all in all to me ;

For what did Jesus love on earth

One half so tenderly as thee ?

Get me the grace to love thee more,

Jesus will give if thou wilt plead ;

And, Mother, when life's cares are

o'er,

Oh, I shall love thee then indeed.



Jesus, when his three hours were run,  
Gave thee from the Cross to me :  
And oh ! how can I love thy Son  
Sweet Mother, if I love not thee ?

NELL AND HER BIRD.

Good-by, little birdie  
Fly to the sky,  
Singing and singing  
A merry good-by.

Tell all the birdies  
Flying above,  
Nell, in the garden,  
Sends them her love.

Tell how I found you,  
Hurt, in a tree ;  
Then, when they're wounded  
They'll come right to me.



## THE QUEEN WASP.

queen	wakened	comb	use
cousin	striped	feelers	mouth
busy	yellow	tiny	holds
nobody	spread	eyes	tools
folded	used	touch	breakfast

Buzz ! “ Look at me, little boys and girls ; I’m not the queen bee, but her cousin, the queen wasp. I must now be very busy for I have been asleep all winter in a warm crack in a tree. Nobody saw me there, for I folded my wings and legs,

to make myself very small. But the spring days have wakened me ; I have come out with my pretty striped dress of yellow and black, and my wings spread out.

“ I used my comb and brush this morning to clean my feelers. Would you like to know where I keep my comb and brush ? Then just look at my legs ; their tiny hairs form my comb and brush. My feelers and my eyes, too, are near the top of my head. Do not touch me, for I might use my sharp sting.

“ I build my house with my mouth, which holds all my tools. I build it of paper, which I make from wood. I was the first to know how to make paper.”

Buzz ! “ I’m off to my breakfast.”

## A LESSON FOR LAZY FOLKS.

## PART I.

once	people	narrow
palace	soldier	cried
peasant	straight	single
lazy	tripped	only
lying	against	stooped
middle	country	remove
scolding	merchants	

There once lived a duke who placed a great rock in the road near his palace. A peasant came along that way next morning with his cart. "O, these lazy people!" said he, "here is this big stone lying in the middle of the road, and no one will move it out of the way." And so he went on, scolding about lazy people.

Next came a gay soldier. He held his head so straight, and so high, that he did not see the stone, until he tripped and fell against it. He began to storm at the country people around there for leaving such a large rock in the road. And he passed on.

A number of merchants came. They found the road so narrow that they had to pass the rock one after another. One of them cried out: —“Did any person see the like of that big stone lying here the whole morning, and not a single person trying to take it away!”

It lay there not only that morning but for three weeks, and no one stooped to remove it.



## PART II.

something	written	coins
neighbor	untied	prize
leather	gold	because

Then the duke sent word to all the people on his lands to meet him near the spot where the rock lay, as he wished to tell them something.

John, the peasant was there, and so was the soldier; and even the merchants came. A crowd met. The duke got down from his horse and thus spoke to them all:—"My friends, it was I who put this stone here three weeks ago. Every one has left it just where it was and has scolded his neighbor for not taking it away."

He stooped down and lifted up the stone. Under it was a small round hole in the ground ; and in the hole was a leather bag. The duke held up the bag that all might see what was written on it :—" For him who lifts this stone."

He untied the bag and turned it upside down. There fell from it a fine gold ring ; and some bright gold coins.

So they all lost the prize because they were lazy.

---

He always wins who sides with God,  
To him no chance is lost ;  
God's will is sweetest to him when  
It triumphs at his cost.

—*Father Faber.*

## THE GUARDIAN ANGEL.

## PART I.

guardian	charge	danger
angel	naughty	order
course	bitterly	story
know	guide	child

Of course you all know you have an angel to guard you. God has given an angel charge over each one of you. That dear angel is ever at your side. He speaks to you ; and if you listen you will hear his sweet, low voice. You should love him dearly, and never do anything to make him sad. He loves you so much that when you are naughty he is sad and weeps bitterly. You should each day ask him to guide you and show you

what you must do in order to be good.

Ask him to take care of you when you are in any danger. I am sure you would like to hear a story of an angel's care of a little child.

---

PART II.

Annie	city	chiefly
Carey	fields	forgot
girl	instead	
years .	stories	

Annie Carey was a bright little girl about seven years old. She lived in a large city and had never seen green fields or woods. Instead of running and playing in the streets, she stayed in the house with her mamma. She liked this, for her mamma told her pretty stories, chiefly about the angels. Annie

loved her angel dearly, and never forgot to pray to him.

---

PART III.

wrote	tired	wanted
country	passengers	walked
ready	smiling	quietly
early	talking	headlong
window	gayly	fast-moving
however		

One day Annie's grandma wrote and asked Annie and her mamma to come to the country to spend two or three weeks. They got ready ; and, early one morning, they went off in the cars. At first mamma let Annie stand on the car seat and look out of the window. Annie, however, soon tired of this and, slipping down, she ran up and down the car, looking at the passengers, smiling at them, and



talking gaily of the good time she was to have at grandma's.

The door at the far end of the car was open, Annie wanted to see what was in the other car, so she walked quietly out. She lost her footing and fell headlong from the fast-moving train.

---

PART IV.

moment	prayer	heard
Mrs.	wild	voice
breathed	grief	brought
fervent	distance	thought

In a moment mamma missed Annie. She looked for her. Annie was not to be found. Where could she be? Had she fallen from the train? Had she hidden from them? No one knew. Mrs. Carey breathed a fervent prayer and asked Annie's angel to take care

of the child. Then nearly wild with grief, she got off the train and set out to find Annie. Would she find her dead or alive? She did not know. She walked a long distance ; and then, just as she had given up all hope, she heard a little voice say : “ O mamma, look, here I am. My angel came and brought me here.” And, turning, mamma saw Annie sitting quietly on a large stone at the foot of a big elm tree. She was unhurt. As she was falling, Annie thought of her angel and prayed to him ; and then, “ it seemed,” so said the child, “ as if some one had lifted me up and put me here on the ground. It must have been my angel, mustn’t it mamma?” “ Yes, my dear,” said her mamma.

## RUN AND PLAY.

There, run away, you little things,  
And skip, and jump, and play ;  
You have been quiet long enough,  
So run away, I say.

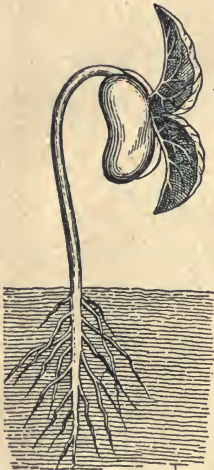
John, you and Mary roll your hoops,  
Tom on a stick can ride ;  
And Ann with Nellie run a race,  
Or any play beside.

The sweet, fresh air so softly blows,  
So brightly shines the sun,  
That active limbs and rosy cheeks  
Will in the race be won.

For little boys and girls may sing,  
And frisk, and jump, and play,  
When work and lessons both are  
done ;  
So run away, I say.

## THE WHITE BEAN.

placed	mould	sunbeams
water	sunshine	blossoms
grew	picture	follow
tried	tucked	remember
pressed	inside	secret
pushed	pretty	between



Well ! here I am at last. I had hard work to get here. Fred placed me in this brown earth about a week ago. I was only a white bean then.

Fred first put me in some water, till I grew very large ; then I went into my dark bed. I tried

very hard to push my way out. My white foot pressed down into the soil; and my head pushed up till it came above the brown mould. How glad I was to see the sunshine. I was a little plant then! Just think of that! Now I will try to grow as large as I can.

See my two green leaves. Will you draw a picture of them? I had them all the time tucked up inside my skin. Are they not pretty? If Fred will only give me water to drink every day, I will soon be able, with the help of the sunbeams, to send out many more leaves. Then pretty white blossoms will follow; and—remember, 'tis a secret between us—by and by there will be some little beans in pods.



## MERRY SPRING.

Merry Spring,  
Will you bring  
Back the little birds to sing?  
I am sad ;  
Make me glad,  
Gentle, merry, laughing Spring.

Winter's snow  
Soon will go  
From the hills and vales below ;  
Then your showers  
Will make the flowers  
Over all the hillsides grow.

Mother said,  
“ They're not dead,  
Only sleeping in their bed ;  
When spring rain  
Comes again,  
Each will raise its tiny head.”

THE FIELD MOUSE AND THE TOWN  
MOUSE.

field	enjoy	honey	friend
mouse	showed	ate	always
lived	cheese	merry	poor
asked	fruit	opened	wheat

A field mouse had a friend which lived in a house in town. Now the town mouse was asked by the field mouse to dine with him ; and out he went and sat down to a meal of corn and wheat.

“ Do you know, my friend,” said the town mouse, “ that you live a mere ant’s life out here ? Why, I have all kinds of things at home ; come and enjoy them.”

So the two set off for town ; and there the town mouse showed his beans and meal, his dates, too,

his cheese, and fruit, and honey. And as the field mouse ate, drank, and was merry, he thought how rich his friend was, and how poor he was.

But, as they ate, a man opened the door; and the mice were in such fear, they ran into a crack in the wall.

Then, when they were about to eat some nice figs, in came a maid to get a pot of honey or a bit of cheese; and when they saw her, they hid in a hole.

The field mouse would eat no more; but said to the town mouse: "Do as you like, my good friend; eat all you want; have your fill of good things; but you are always in fear of your life. As for me, poor mouse, who have only corn and wheat, I will live on at home, in no fear of any one."

PRAISE THE LORD, O CHILDREN.

Praise      people      formed      truth  
children      pasture      harden      brought  
Blessed      highly      angels      holy  
soul      praised      hearken      youth

Praise the Lord, O children ;  
praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the  
Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

We are His people and the sheep  
of His pasture.

The Lord is great, and highly  
to be praised.

In His hand are all the ends of  
the earth.

The sea is His ; and He made  
it : His hands formed the dry land.

To-day, if you shall hear His

voice, harden not your heart.

He hath given his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house, O Lord; they shall praise Thee for ever and ever.

Thy mercy is better than life: my lips shall praise Thee.

Thus will I bless Thee all my life long; and in Thy name I will lift up my hands.

Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Send forth Thy light and Thy truth; they have led me, and brought me to Thy holy hill.

I will go in unto the altar of God: unto God who giveth joy to my youth.



## TAKE CARE.

Little children, you must seek  
Rather to be good than wise,  
For the thoughts you do not speak,  
Shine out in your cheeks and eyes.

If you think that you can be  
Cross or cruel, and look fair,  
Let me tell you how to see  
You are quite mistaken there.

Go and stand before the glass,  
And some ugly thought contrive,  
And my word will come to pass,  
Just as sure as you're alive.

What you have, and what you lack,  
All the same as what you wear,  
You will see reflected back;  
So my little folks, take care.

Cherish what is good ; and drive  
Evil thoughts and feelings far ;  
For, as sure as you're alive  
You will show for what you are.

—*Alice Carey.*

---

### SONG OF THE GRASS BLADES.

Peeping, peeping, here and there,  
In lawns and meadows everywhere,  
Coming up to find the spring,  
And hear the robin redbreast sing ;  
Creeping under children's feet,  
Glancing at the violets sweet,  
Growing into tiny bowers  
For the dainty meadow flowers :—  
We are small, but think a minute,  
Of a world with no grass in it.

## THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.

any	else	another
used	sultry	flash
scorched	shone	thunder
flowers	lightning	begins

There has not been any rain for a long time. The ground is very dry and hard. The grass is not so green as it used to be. It is brown ; it is scorched by the sun. If it do not rain soon, we must water the trees and flowers, else they will die.

The sun does not shine now ; but the air is very hot. It is quite sultry. There is no wind at all. The leaves on the trees do not move. The sky looks very black ; and how dark it is ! Ha ! what a

bright light shone through the room ! Now it is gone. It did not last long. What was it ? It was lightning.

Lightning comes from the clouds. There is another flash. What a noise there is in the air just over our heads. That is thunder. How loud the thunder is ! It begins to rain. O ! what large drops. Now it rains very fast.

---

### UNION IS STRENGTH.

An old man on the point of death called his sons around him. He ordered that a bundle of sticks be brought in ; and said to each son, in turn :—" Break it." Each son strained, but, with all his strength, was unable to break the bundle.

" Untie the sticks," said the father, " and each of you take a stick." When they had done so he called out to them :—" Now, break," and each stick was easily broken.

*Union is Strength.*

## THE KITE.

Willie will try his kite to fly  
Up in the sky—ever so high.  
The wind blows hard ; but the cord  
    is strong,  
And soon it will sail the clouds  
    among.

Feel ! it pulls tight ! Don't be in a  
    fright !  
Hold on with all your main and  
    might !  
Steadily stand—hand over hand,  
Feet firmly fixed on the solid land.

See ! what a flier ! higher and  
    higher ;  
To the bright white clouds it gets  
    nigher and nigher !  
And its tail so strong, so gay, so  
    long,



Keeps it straight, and steady, and  
always ready  
To answer the string, when we want  
to bring  
The kite down from the sky, where  
it flew so high.

And now we must go ! Pull it in  
slow,  
Winding the string so-and-so !  
We may say, *Well done !* It is very  
good fun  
To fly a kite in the lovely light  
Of the laughing face of the broad,  
bright sun !

---

We tread through fields of speckled  
flowers  
As if we did not know  
Our Father made them beautiful  
Because he loves us so.

## THE LITTLE RAINDROP.

farmer	sorry	cheer	heard
begun	dying	little	together
wither	could	struck	watered
signs	shower	putting	because
clouds	stalk	second	tried

There was once a farmer who had a large field of corn, which had begun to wither and droop for want of rain. He felt very sad; and every day he hoped to see some signs of rain.

One day as he stood in the field, looking at the sky, two little rain-drops far up in the clouds saw him.

The one said to the other, "Look at that poor farmer, I feel sorry for him; he has taken so much care of his field of corn, and now it is all

drooping and dying. I wish I could do him some good."

"Yes," said the other, "but you are only a little raindrop; and what good can you do? It takes a great many raindrops to make a shower. You could not wet even one stalk of corn."

"Well," said the first, "to be sure I cannot do much, but I can cheer up the poor farmer a little. I will go to the field to show my good will, if I can do no more; so here I go."

Down went the little raindrop, and struck the farmer full on the cheek. "What is this?" said the farmer, putting his hand to his cheek; "a drop of rain, I think. Where has it come from? I do hope we are going to have a shower of rain at last."

As soon as the first drop had set off to the field, the second said:—“Well, if you go, I shall go, too,” and down he also fell on a stalk of corn.

By this time all the other drops in the cloud had heard what had been said by the first two drops; and they had also seen them fall down upon the field, so they all said:—“Let us, too, go and help the farmer.”

Down they all came together, till they made a fine shower. The corn was now well watered, and soon grew long and ripe, all because the first little raindrop tried to do what little it could to cheer up the poor farmer.

## THE BOY FOR ME.

His cap is old,  
But his hair is gold,  
And his face is as clear as the sky ;  
And whoever he meets  
In lanes or in streets,  
He looks him straight in the eye.

With a manly pride,  
Having nothing to hide,  
He bows with an air polite,  
As the knight so bold  
In the days of old,  
And his smile is swift as light.

Does his mother call ?  
No kite or ball,  
Nor the merriest game, can stay  
His eager feet  
As he hastes to meet  
Whatever she has to say.



And the teachers depend  
On this little friend ;  
At school in his place at nine,  
With his lessons learned,  
And his good marks earned,  
All ready to stand in line.

I wonder if you  
Have seen him, too,  
This boy who is not too tall .  
For a morning kiss  
From mother and Sis,  
Yet the manliest boy of all.

Gentle and strong,  
And the whole day long  
As merry as boy can be ;  
A gentleman, dears,  
In the coming years,  
And at present, THE BOY FOR ME.

## LITTLE NELLIE'S PRAYER.

Heart	knee	taken
prayer	blessing	grew
music	faithful	priest
Holy	length	careless
bedside	reward	going

How dear to our Lord's heart is the prayer of a little child. There is no music so sweet as that of boy or girl speaking to God or His Holy Mother. Night and morning that voice should be heard from every bedside or mother's knee.

Little Nellie was quite young ; and was her grandpa's pet. She loved him, and always wished to do something for him. Her mother

told her to say a prayer every day, that her grandpa might love God and the Church. So, the child, every day, said a "Hail Mary," to get a blessing on her grandpa.

Time passed on, but Nellie was always faithful to her prayer. At length her reward came. Grandpa was taken sick and soon grew worse. He sent for a priest, to whom he told that Nellie's prayers had saved him. Up to that time he had been careless about going to Mass. See what one little child, with our Blessed Mother's aid, can do.

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God made my life a little song,  
That comforteth the sad ;  
That helpeth others to be strong,  
And makes the singer glad.

## THE LITTLE CRICKET.

A dear little cricket lived under the  
hearth,

And always singing a song was he;  
He seemed to run over with good-  
will and mirth,

And he chirped his tunes right  
merrily,

“Cheer-up! cheer-up!” sang the  
cricket so gay;

“Cheer-up! cheer-up!” from morn-  
ing till night,

“O, come, good people and list to  
my lay,”

And he sang and chirped with all  
his might.

For the little cricket under the hearth

Never wished for more than he had;  
That was the cause of his good-will  
and mirth,

That is the reason he was so glad.

## THE LITTLE TRAVELLERS.

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PART I.

milkweed	hundred	travelling
burdock	tiny	without
thistle	thrust	whispered
hickory	ready	beast
burrs	perhaps	carry

A milkweed, a burdock, and a thistle grew on the side of a hill, near a hickory tree. The milkweed babies were peeping out of their houses.

The burrs were brown and ripe ; and every one had a hundred tiny hooks thrust out.

In the round green balls of the hickory tree were nuts ready to fall. "There is no room here for my children to live," said the milkweed. "They must find new ground to live in."



“Perhaps your children and mine will travel together,” said the thistle. “I see their wings are nearly grown.”

The hickory tree shook itself as it said :—“ You will see some travelling without wings, soon, if you watch my children.”

The burdock whispered :—“ Watch and wait, my little burrs, and you shall go as far as boy or beast can carry you.”

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PART II.

shone	happened	curly
feathery	forgot	running
sailed	growing	hooks
balloons	scolded	stockings
travelled	chattered	jackets
family	talking	carry
squirrels	remained	brown
scampered	catch	earth
dinner		

The bright sun shone on the thistle and the milkweed until their seeds pushed out in great, white, feathery balls, ready to travel. Then the wind blew, and they sailed away like little white balloons, far out of sight.

How do you think the hickory nuts travelled? There was a whole family of squirrels living near by; and they scampered away with every nut they could find. These squirrels had nuts for dinner, nuts for lunch, and nuts to put away in their holes in the trees.

But they dropped some in the grass and the leaves. Can you tell what happened to the lost nuts?

One little squirrel dug a hole by the side of a large stone; and then forgot where he had left his dinner. He did not know that he had

planted tree-seeds for the spring growing. The next year little hickory trees grew up by the stone. Can you guess how they came there?

All this time the burdock children remained with their mother. One day a dog ran by, "Catch him; be quick," said Mother Burdock. So, many of the little brown burrs rode away on the dog's curly hair.

Then some boys and more dogs came running down the hill. The little burrs caught their hooks in stockings, and jackets, and coats. Away they went as far as boy or beast could carry them, just as their mother said.

For days and days the little seeds travelled; and when the snows came, many of them were in the brown earth, far away from the mother plants on the hill side.

## THE LAMB.

Little lamb, who made thee?

Dost thou know who made thee,  
Gave thee life and bade thee feed  
By the stream and o'er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice?

Little lamb, who made thee.

Dost thou know who made t

Little lamb, I'll tell thee;

Little lamb, I'll tell thee:

He is callèd by thy name,  
For he calls Himself a Lamb;  
He is meek, and He is mild,  
He became a little child.

I a child, and thou a lamb,  
We are callèd by His name.

Little lamb, God bless thee!

May Our Lord bless thee and me!

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